GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1126
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008
EXPERTS VIEW ON AVIAN FLU
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the experts have suggested ways to minimize the effect of avian flu on human as reported in 'The Hindu' dated, December 18, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof including recommendation received from Influenza Foundation of India; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to implement those recommendations?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c): The media reports dated 18th December, 2007 has stated about the alert issued by World Health Organisation (WHO) on spread of avian influenza infection in number of countries including Germany, Pakistan and Myanmar and urging the nations to be vigilant in identifying and reporting cases in both birds and humans. Government of India has adopted WHO recommended guidelines on Avian Influenza management and pandemic preparedness. The strategy as followed now for minimizing the human exposure is stamping out the disease in poultry, putting the human population in the affected zone under active surveillance to detect case early and to manage them.

No recommendations from Influenza Foundation of India has been received by the Government of India.